



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, January 29, 2010

CONTACT: Marc Chery

619-236-5817

CENTRAL LIBRARY PRESENTS “REFUGEE 101” ABOUT REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES

Discussion Explores the Process of Refugee Re-settlement in the United States

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library will host a presentation *Refugee 101* on refugee resettlement in the U.S. in conjunction with the ongoing *One Book, One San Diego* community reading campaign. The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10 in the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. This event is free to the public.

Refugee 101 will be facilitated by Bob Montgomery, executive director of the San Diego regional office of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), which helps to resettle refugees in the U.S. It is an eye-opening primer on refugee resettlement and addresses who is a refugee and how refugees overseas are selected for the U.S Resettlement Program. It also describes the process for admission to the U.S. as a refugee. Finally it takes a look at the services that are provided to refugees upon arrival. The U.S. has a long tradition of offering refuge to those fleeing persecution and war. Last year, the IRC's 26 regional offices resettled over 9,000 newly arrived refugees and provided services to 28,000 refugees, asylees and victims of human trafficking.

The *One Book*, campaign, sponsored with KPBS, is designed to encourage all San Diegans to read the same book at the same time, and to educate and enlighten on topics and themes of concern to the community. This year's selection is *Outcasts United* by New York Times journalist Warren St. John. Throughout the year the San Diego Public Library, KPBS and other partner organizations will present workshops, lectures, discussion groups and TV and radio programming. For a calendar of events, visit the library catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org and click *One Book, One San Diego*.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

#